



Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee

Murdock Administration Building, 18500 Murdock Circle,
Building B, Room B-106, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

<u>Board Members:</u>	<u>District:</u>
Don McCormick, Chair	District 2
Nichole Beyer	District 3
Vacant	District 1
Wendy Lang, Vice-Chair.....	District 5
Stas Matias.....	District 4
Jeff Anlauf.....	Member-at-Large
Vacant.....	Member-at-Large

MINUTES

June 2nd, 2022, at 9:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order:

Don McCormick called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Don McCormick asked those in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call / Determination of a Quorum

Upon Secretary Bennett calling the roll call, it was determined a quorum was present.

4. Approval of Minutes

- Approve the Minutes from April 7, 2022

Ms. Lang made a motion to approve the April 7, 2022, minutes, seconded by **Mr. Matias** the motion passed unanimously.

5. Changes to the Agenda

None offered.

6. Citizen Input on Agenda Items

None offered.

1. New Business

- July and August BSAC meeting to be discussed

The group discussed to cancel the July and August BSAC meetings for this year.

Mr. Anlauf made a motion to cancel the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee meeting in July and August 2022, seconded by **Mr. Matias**; the motion passed unanimously.

- Guest Speaker – Jennifer Hecker – update on CHNEP

Jennifer Hecker gave a presentation of the Coastal and Heartland National Estuary Partnership (CHNEP).

- They cover Inland and coastal Communities incl. 10 counties and 25 cities
- CHNEP is: Public-private partnership – Consensus based – Non- regulatory – Science based – Citizen supported
- They implement the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP)
- CHNEP supports comprehensive and coordinated water quality monitoring, projects and programs that reduce pollutants entering waterways
- They host a CHNEP water atlas on the web – that takes all publicly assessable data that’s being collected from every entity in the region and is placed in this one location - <https://chnep.wateratlas.usf.edu/>
- Their biggest project that they are doing is the Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Hydrological Restoration initiative – a multi-agency, that covers two counties; Charlotte and Lee counties – two water management districts; southwest and south Florida water districts and other agencies
 - It encompasses over 80,000 acres of land where it looks at how to move water from where it’s causing harm and how can they move that water safely to other areas that need that flow.
- They work on terrestrial habitat and aquatic habitat- Sea grass, oysters, clams, living shorelines, etc.
- A future project that they will be working on in the coming year is the Tiki Point Harborwalk living shoreline restoration project – they are partnering with the City of Punta Gorda- that would involve oyster beds and mangroves with the expected benefits to reduce wave action and flooding in extreme storm events
- CHNEP public engagement includes Educational Magazines – Annual Nature Calendar – Monthly Volunteer Events – attends outreach festivals in each county – Conservation Grants

Ms. Lang when was the startup of the Flatwood project? **Ms. Hecker** responded most likely 2018, because it took awhile to get it going. They received a \$800,000 grant, which had to go through the process. After a short discussion the question was cleared up to when did the initiative start, which the initiative goes back at least 20 years.

Ms. Lang asked **Ms. Hecker** who is monitoring the watershed mapping on a regular basis? **Ms. Hecker** asked do you mean habitat or hydrology? **Ms. Lang** clarified hydrology. **Ms. Hecker** explained the hydrological modeling is still on going. There will be a living tool that could be re-run over time as things change. They have created the living tool to be publicly available so anyone can have access to this.

2. Old Business

- Brandon Moody, Water Quality Manager
 - Water Quality
 - SW Resiliency Compact update

Mr. Moody commented in terms of the county monitoring program, he’s expecting to get a scope here soon for him to review and approve to get on the ground very soon. That program is still moving along. **Commissioner Deutsch** asked if there are any updates on what North Port is going to be doing with water testing? **Mr. Moody** replied that North Port started collecting grab samples in various spot back in November, they have been doing monthly sampling which will be continuing on till November of this year. One of those locations are the Como Waterway in Cocoplum, where they have been collecting monthly samples. Their goal was to try and understand what is in their waterways and if there are any contributions from septic systems in those waterways. Apart from nutrients they have also been sampling for sucralose – an artificial sweetener that

doesn't tend to reside in the human body, so it gets excreted. If it's seen in the water way that means, there is some source coming into that water way from a human source. You have to be careful in the research, because reuse water can also contain sucralose- you have to make sure that what's being monitored is not also having to catch reused water. The commissioners of North Port had a workshop last month where they started talking about what they've seen so far, if interested in the septic to sewer conversion he recommends finding it on YouTube and watching it.

- Michael Poff, Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc.
 - South Beach (Knight-Don Pedro Island) Renourishment
 - Stump Pass navigation channel project
 - Mitigation reef
 - Terminal Groin placement on Stump Pass

Matt Logan, Public Works spoke because **Mr. Poff** was not present.

- Stump Pass navigation channel project

Mr. Logan expressed they were supposed to be complete with a projection of completion by April 1st. However, they are still out there. They've had significant weather delays throughout the project. With the storm coming through in the next few days they are securing their equipment in hopes to get back out there hopefully beginning of next week. They have a new projection date of completion by the middle of June. They have about 4,000-5,000 cubic yards to finish up the project left. The Mitigation reef they are continuing to monitor.

- **Matt Logan/Zach Patchell, Public Works Engineering Projects Update Report**

Mr. Logan encouraged all to look at Zach Patchell's report.

- Parks and Natural Resources
 - Parks and Natural Resources Update
 - Derelict Vessel Update Report

- Derelict Vessel Update Report

Commissioner Deutsch asked if Documented Vessels are treated any differently or are they more difficult to removed than a non-documented vessel? **Ms. Scudera** replied she will follow up with that at a later date.

Ms. Scudera gave an update on the DV report:

- 5 have been removed
- 2 were relocated – which means they are currently in compliance
- 2 are waiting approvals
- 6 have been cited
- 3 open cases
- 1 ready for removal

Mr. McCormick brought up that last month the Board of County Commissioners took action on the letter that he sent to them last fall about DV registration. They are asking the state representative to address the issue.

- Riviera Marina

Commissioner Deutsch commented there has been some improvements but still lots of problems.

- Sea Turtles
 - 161 Logger head nest – Manasota key/Stump Pass
 - 146 Logger Head and 2 Greens nest – Palm / Don Padro Knight Island
 - 66 Logger Head nest – Boca Grande
 - No monitor available -Little Gasparilla Island

- Shore Birds and Sea birds

The adult high count for the entire county:

- 278 - Lease Tern
- 352 - Black Skimmers
- 5 – Wilsons

The nest high count for the entire county:

- 89 – Lease Tern Nest – 5- chicks
- 1 – Wilsons’s nest – no chicks

Ms. Scudera gave an update on their Carolina Reaper pepper study, where the pepper was used a predator repellent around the Palm Island Shore bird mitigation site. A synopsis, there are 4 sides to the site, the main access they did not put anything down – the beach front side, they found if you put the pepper inside of cheese cloth and staple it to the stakes, that works very well – the back side, they are sprinkling the pepper around the stakes. First couple of weeks with it, they saw Coyotes come up sniff it and then turn around. However, a resident saw a big coyotes around one of the sites.

9. Correspondence and Communication

None offered.

10. Public Comments

Kathi Obendorfer, SMSKA, complimented staff on the great job on the Derelict Vessels. She commented that they are very concerned about the wetlands and the mangroves on Beach Rd coming onto Manasota Key. She explains there’s a lot of rumors going around about some land that is in that surrounding area about developers taking in interest, they are keeping their eyes on it because of the wetlands and mangroves.

11. Comments by Administrative Staff or Consultants

None offered.

12. Member Comments

None offered.

13. Next Meeting

- The next Regular Meeting of the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee will be **Thursday, September 1, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, Room B-106 Port Charlotte unless otherwise announced.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Don McCormick, Chair